

Church Dedication

As the old reed organ triumphantly proclaimed "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," members of Immanuel Lutheran congregation and their friends entered the church with joyful and grateful hearts on Dedication Sunday, May 7. The local pastor, S. Bue was in charge of the regular morning worship service with Dr. Mars Dale as guest speaker. "What mean ye by these stones?" was the thought-provoking question presented by Dr. Dale who showed the importance of a church building as a memorial to the faith of the builders and as a witness to the power of God through Jesus Christ, the only true Foundation. A challenge to have a greater part in the extension of God's Kingdom was given. "Open the Gates of the Temple," a vocal solo by Miss Agnes Bue and "All Praise to Thee, Eternal God" by Immanuel Junior Choir were the messages in song.

After a dinner served by the local W.M.F., the crowd re-assembled for another session. Pastor Nelson who had served the parish from 1929 until a year ago, and who had guided the congregation through trying depression years, making personal sacrifice to keep it self-supporting, brought his testimony based on the familiar parable of "The Sower and the Seed." Mr. Albert Mohagen as head of the building committee gave a summary of the project. A brief history of the local W.M.F. was given by Mrs. W. Anholt in addition to her reading of a letter from her father, Mr. J. Hetland, who had canvassed for almost the entire building fund. Mr. Alfred Bergren in giving the financial report showed how it had been possible to successfully finance the church building project with no loans or deficits. This report also revealed that Pastor Nelson on his retirement, had been granted a gift of \$1,000.00. Dr. Mars Dale again brought a challenging message. "How Lovely are Thy Dwellings," a vocal solo by Mrs. C. Otteson, "The Church Marches On," a quartet by Pastor and Mrs. Bue, Miss Stanis Guttormson and Mr. H. L yngseth. "Now Thank We All Our God," a trio by Misses Nora Nelson and Yvonne Folstad and Mrs. C. Otteson were the music contributions to the program.

The following gifts had been made in the way of church furnishings:

Altar and altar ring, O. Brenna family in memory of their parents.
Brass altar cross, Immanuel W.M.F.
Dorsal cloth and one pew, Helge Amundsen family.

Baptismal font, family of Mrs. S. Erickson in her memory.

Pulpit, Mrs. A. Rude in memory of her husband; and Gunnar Mathews and Carl Ottoson families in memory of John Guttormson, Sr.

Rubber aisle carpet, Mr. and Mrs. John Rausch and Bell.

Hymn board, Dorcas Society.

Pews, Hetland brothers and Mrs. Inanda Hoyme.

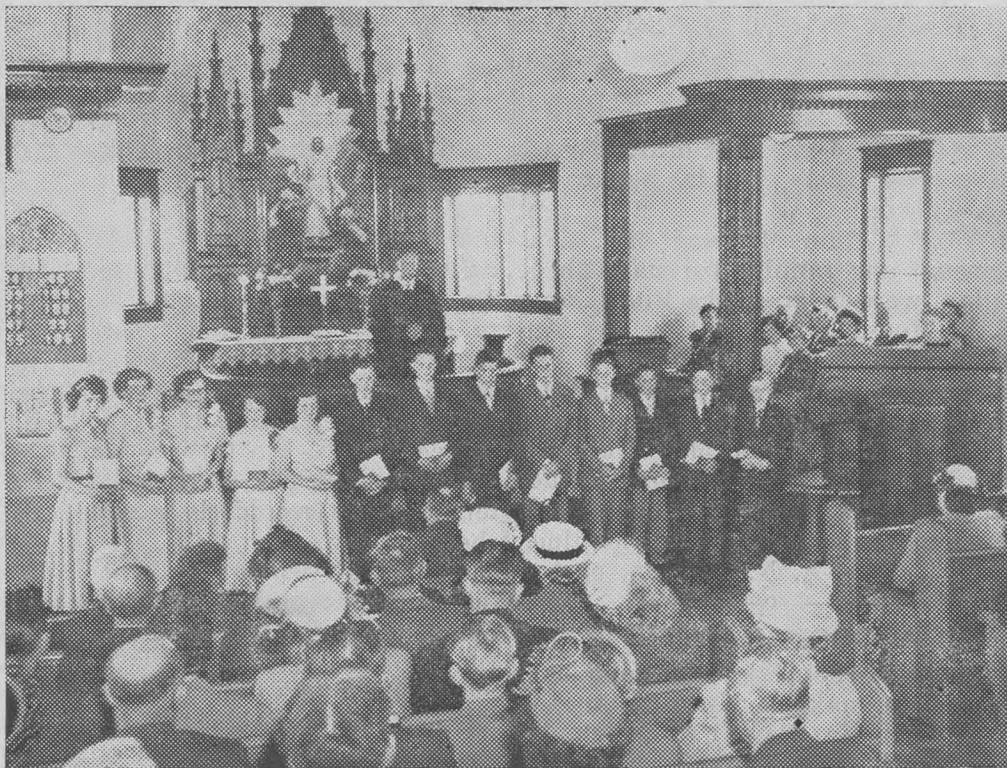
One pew, Mrs. Ida Guttormson and family in memory of her husband, and sons Thelmer and Ross.

Silver candle holders were donated in early years by pioneer A. Moe who had become blind.

May the completed church building with its beautiful interior and furnishings, its automatic oil heating system, and its convenient base-

ment, truly be not only a memorial to the living faith of the pioneers who realized the importance of planning for such a house of worship, but may all who come within its sanctuary find there the living God and know His salvation through His Son Jesus, us-

Confirmation at Trinity



Pentecost Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church began with Sunday School at 10.00 a.m. with a large attendance of children, many coming on the Sunday School bus. Promptly at eleven the class of Confirmands came into the Church and took their places in the front, and with the opening prayer the service began. The congregation numbered well over 300 and every available space in the church was used.

"While ye have light, believe in the Light." John 12:36.

When we look at the moon through a telescope we do not make it bigger than it is, but bring it nearer. Let us magnify our Lord and bring Him nearer to thousands from whom He seems afar off.

These beautiful summer days turn the thoughts of many to fishing trips and outings to our beautiful Canadian lakes. Here we can spend a very profitable week or two, at one of our Bible camps which strive to magnify the Lord. Make use of this opportunity while we have the Light midst us. Let us continue to send out the Light of the World even if it flickers and is threatened by those who would extinguish it. "The Light shineth in darkness cannot put it out." Mot.

"While ye have light, believe in the Light."

Hope to see many of you at our camps.

In His service,

Olga J. Guttormson.

I wish to share these lines with you which were sent to me and I have enjoyed very much.

"I'm glad my times are in Thy hand; It is so sweet to know

That everything by Thee is planned

For me where'er I go;

The Hand that holds the ocean's

depths

Can hold my small affairs.

The Hand that guides the universe

Can carry all my cares.

I'm glad I cannot shape my way,

I'd rather trust Thy skill;

I'm glad the ordering is not mine,

I'd rather have Thy will;

I do not know the future

And I would not if I might,

For faith to me is better far —

Than faulty human sight."

In Christ,

Olga J. Guttormson.

ing the Holy Spirit to be a real church militant that thereby many at home and afar may join the church triumphant at the coming of the Son of God in Glory.

—J. C. O.

Pastor J. B. Haave preached on the text, "If ye love Me, ye will keep My commandments." It was confirmation day for everyone that day as the Word of God struck home to many hearts. Clearly and firmly the various ones in the class spoke their promises before God and the congregation and then other communicants joined them in the reception of Holy Communion. After the presentation of certificates each one was given a Standard Revised Version of the New Testament from the Sunday School. The class consisted of Shirley Solberg, Inger Hanson, Sonia Pederson, Doris Haave, Gwen Jacobsen, Leslie Starheim, Marvin Berge, Elmer Gulbranson, Harold Moy, Palmer Hoem, Neil Johnson, Norman Myhre and David Johnson.

Begun the first Sunday in May a great home mission work is being carried out through the whole Fraser Valley by Children's Chapel broadcast over CKNW, New Westminster. Appreciation is expressed by mail by many an unchurched family who loves to hear the Word of God as told and the heartfelt prayer and songs of Bob Lee. In Surrey Municipality alone there are more children below school age than all the rest of the children together. What a mission field for a church that cares for the children. School children from around Trinity go sixteen miles to school, leaving home at 7.30 because room is not available closer. Other schools run two shifts to take care of the needs. To help relieve the situation Trinity has consented to let grades one and two public school, be taught in the church basement while the new school is being built.

COMING OFF WORK

Jacob B. Stolee

Those men were in a hurry! They weren't going to a fire so why the rush? The reason was simple enough for they were coming off work; they were in a hurry to get home. That is why there was this dash for bus, for car or street lest the rush hour of traffic delay them. But I wondered whether some had been so anxious to go to their homes that had been neglectful or loitered the last while before the go home signal sounded.

God's people who are His workers should be anxious to go home. The apostle Paul was for he states that, he had a desire to depart and be with Christ. He knew that to be far better; but he had no intention of quitting before the Lord called him. Like the Master he would work while it was day. How much more could he do be-

DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The editor suggests that our people would be interested in the new home mission fields.

Two fields are being occupied at present. They are South Edmonton and Ponoka, both in Alberta. We are seriously considering going into Melfort, in Saskatchewan, and the field has been assigned us by the Saskatchewan Regional Home Mission Committee.

In South Edmonton things are developing fast. An excellent site for a church and parsonage has been chosen. The man who owned the one hundred foot lot for the church and the forty foot lot for the parsonage is also the contractor who has built some fifty homes in the neighborhood. These two lots, on which the church is to be located, would cost approximately five thousand dollars. However, because we are giving the owner and contractor the privilege of building the church, it looks as though he will donate the lots.

The location of the church will be on 76th avenue and 111th street. There is only one other church in the immediate vicinity and that belongs to the Baptist denomination. The locality is predominantly Protestant and we have an excellent nucleus of our people who will prove to be the group around which the congregation will be built. Pastor Alvin Stenberg, of Glyndon, Minnesota, who spent one summer in the Cabri field, has been called to be the pastor. This should prove, by far, to be the most prospective field we have in Canada.

The Ponoka field is proving to be very worthwhile too. We were only assigned the field on May 31. Immediately we planned to place a student there for the summer, working this field in conjunction with the Bentley congregation. As a result Mr. Curtis Satre has been conducting services in the Anglican Church in Ponoka. It has only been possible to have afternoon services as yet, but the attendance has not been less than 40, so prospects are good. It is the plan to call a pastor to this parish very soon. He will serve both the Ponoka and the Bentley congregations, thus making a fine parish and at the same time making it possible for Bentley to be served regularly.

Both the above projects are made possible through the Church Extension Fund of our church at large. Money has been voted for a parsonage and a first unit in Edmonton (which may prove to be the entire church for years to come) and for a parsonage in Ponoka. However, we will have to wait until the money is in the Fund. This, in turn, will depend much on the response to the Church Extension Fund offering which was to have been received in each congregation, throughout our Church, on May 7, but which has not been received in many congregations as yet. We certainly hope and pray that Canada will respond generously.

—Mars A. Dale.

fore day was done? He is convinced that God still had some work assigned for him, but after that was finished how glad he would be to come off work; how happy to go home!

We are figuring on heaven. Let the thought of it quicken our steps. There will be time enough for rest in the Sabbath rest prepared for the people of God. So then, let us continue faithfully using the time, the talents and the strength we have with no loitering until our work day ends. Meanwhile the thought of the home above should quicken our steps.

The Shepherd

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INCREASE IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Reports indicate that our Evangelical Lutheran Church has in the last six years increased in membership by about one-third. The number of baptized members has increased from 607,868, January 1, 1944 to 833,837 January 1, 1950. This is an increase of 205,969. The Evangelical Lutheran Church is now the third largest of the Lutheran Synods in America.

When we note the constantly increasing budget, let us remember the above mentioned fact. A growing child always entails new outlay. And when we think of the great opened doors for expansion that our church now faces, we must support it with our prayers and means, generously.

* * *

There is cause for concern when our Lutheran World Action Treasurer reports that the over-all contribution up to this last month, from all the synods is only 6.7 per cent. True, our E.L.C. has sent in 36 per cent of its goal, but we are still a long way off, and the need is great. The figures for our district are as follows: Goal, \$14,700.00; sent in, \$4,352.22. We urge you to keep it in mind. Time flies quickly by.

* * *

It has been a joy to visit many of our Bible camps. Fine co-operation between pastors and lay people is evident. A couple camps in our district had registration of over 200 this summer. A fine feature which is coming to the fore in our district is the Family Retreat — but that deserves an article all by itself. We hope to have it for our next issue.

Obituaries

Mr. Knute Brye

Mr. Knute Brye was born on July 5, 1860, in Hull, Norway. He went to the United States when he was seventeen years of age and was married at thirty-four years of age.

In 1910, he came to Canada and settled in the Hallonquist district. There he became a member of the Spring Valley congregation.

In 1922 the Bryes moved to Vanguard and, in 1945, moved into Swift Current.

Knute Brye had suffered from rheumatism the last ten years of his life on earth. The last six weeks were spent in bed. He died early on the morning of June 4, 1950.

The funeral was conducted at Spring Valley congregation school-house by Student Pastor Wm. H. Braaten on Tuesday, June 6th.

* * *

Karl Johan Vaksdal

Karl Johan Vaksdal was born on November 15, in the year 1900, in the district of Voss, Norway. In 1910 he came with his parents and the others of the family to North America. They came directly to this district of south-eastern Saskatchewan and settled on the farm that has been his home since that time. His life work has been that of farming but he has been active in many other interests of the community besides.

In 1942 he was married to Irene

Hoodle of Regina. To this union three children have been born.

After an illness of several weeks he passed away in a Regina hospital on June 3, 1950 at the age of 49 years, seven months. His father predeceased him in 1942.

He leaves to mourn him his widow, three children, John, Judy, Caroline, his mother, two sisters and one brother.

Funeral services were held in Lake Alma Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 10. Interment was in the cemetery of Nordalen congregation, just north of Lake Alma.

Besides the many floral tributes there were other gifts in memory of Mr. Vaksdal. Two dollars were sent to S.L.B.I. from Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Grinstad and family, Torquay. Three dollars were given to the Bible Camp of the Moose Jaw Circuit by Mrs. Anna Johnson, Torquay.

The text used was Romans 13:11, 12. May God help each one of us to think on these things. May the heavenly Father be your heavenly Father and so speak, comfort, hope and peace to you who sorrow at this time.

—A. N. Solheim, pastor.

A GOOD HARVEST

It was a cool July afternoon as I set out to make a visitation to the Provost parish. Rain had fallen, intermittently for a week. Even the Biggar hills were green. It made one happy to feel that this year most of the prairies will be blessed with a fine crop. It was about 1.00 a.m. when I reached Provost so I was unable to see what the stand of the grain might be in Eastern Alberta. However, Sunday morning, before services, the pastor and I went to the edge of town to see the unfinished parsonage. Not far away we saw a wheat field, the like of which I have seldom, if ever, seen. It stood there chest-high, and weedless, waving in the cool morning breeze.

It looks like there will be a rich harvest in the Provost parish too, and that is by far the most important. Here is a parish which seemed, but a few years ago, almost defeated. The pastor was a willing soul, giving of time and effort. But what can a man do to intensify efforts when serving seven congregations; two 18 and 40 miles to the west; two 20 miles to the northwest and eight miles to the southeast; two 60 miles to the north and then a little preaching place (in homes) in town.

Three years ago the two congregations to the north were approached to become a separate parish, together with another congregation, Lea Park, of a parish further north. This was done. A parsonage was secured and a pastor called.

Then the attempt was made to divide the rest of the parish, inclusive of a congregation, Veteran, about 60 miles to the southeast. When the older pastor retired, (and let us here make public mention of Dr. Egedal, and thank him most heartily for his work) two students occupied the fields instead of one, during the summer.

The new set up placed the congregations of Veteran, Metiskow and Amisk in one field, with the student living in Amisk, the most centrally located town. It thus left Provost town, as a preaching place, and two country congregations to shift for themselves.

What to do to secure some place to meet in Provost was the question. A meeting was held of the Executive Committee of the Canada Home Mission Committee, and that of a committee from the Provost group. The United Church in town was for sale and the question as to whether or not a Church Extension loan could be secured was discussed. It was also a question as to whether or not three rooms back of the United Church could be used for parsonage. The latter was discouraged.

However, the men of the Provost

parish decided to take matters in their own hands and make a go of it themselves, which was by far the wiser thing to do. One of the men from one of the country congregations said he thought the two country congregations would help Provost buy the church. So two men set out and four thousand dollars, the price asked for the United Church, was gathered, and last summer the church was dedicated as Central Lutheran Church, Provost.

Then came the matter of parsonage. As long as there was student help for summer only, the three rooms sufficed but the congregations were informed that a pastor would be available this spring. One of the Seminary seniors, Palmer Olson, was called. This made action imperative. Dr. Dybvig was contacted in regard to a loan. Application blanks were sent to the parish. But the people did not like to go in debt. At the meeting therefore, where the matter was discussed, one of the men of the parish got up and said he had two fifty foot lots that he would donate and further, he said, he had a house (seven rooms) that he would be willing to donate if the parish would move the house, set it on a full foundation, and condition it in such a way that it would be in excellent shape for the pastor to occupy. It was also decided that a fine garage should be built on the property.

As a result of this fine gift on the part of one of the members it was possible to dedicate the parsonage on Visitation Sunday even though it was not, as yet, completed. But now that parish is ready to make rapid strides in the future. It will be self-supporting from the start.

Monday was spent in visiting the western part of the field. It is our hopes that the Amisk, Veteran and Metiskow group will be able to see their way to calling a pastor next spring, as ten students will then be graduating from our Seminary. When this is consummated it will mean that we will have three self-supporting parishes where before we had one.

As I boarded the bus for Saskatoon on Monday afternoon I thanked God for this parish and for the vision of these people and their willingness to put everything they had into the work. We pray that such a fine spirit will continue.

Thank you, Provost, for setting the pace. We have many fields in Canada that will have to be divided such as this. You have set something for the rest to shoot at. Thanks to you, students, too, for your willingness in helping to realize this important project.

There will be a good harvest on the prairies, we do pray. With it we pray there will also be a great harvest of souls.

—Mars A. Dale.

SOME THOUGHTS ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

There is a growing sentiment in our district that the Norwegian Lutheran Church of Canada should become an autonomous church, i.e., self-supporting and self-governing in all its affairs. One aspect of the problem that we must not overlook in our thinking and planning is our foreign missions responsibility. It will not be fitting for us to say that we will henceforth be responsible for our educational and charitable institutions, and for our home missions program, but that for the time being others shall discharge our foreign missions responsibility. God's blessing can hardly rest upon our work at home if we are disobedient to our Saviour's commission to go and make disciples of all nations.

This article does not seek to give the final answer as to how as a Canadian Church we shall discharge our foreign missions responsibility. Rather it suggests for thoughtful consideration and prayer a number of possibilities.

1) One possibility is that we find and develop an entirely new field. Several adverse considerations are immediately apparent however. It would take time to find a new field. It would take time to arouse interest in the new field. It would appear that the budget for such a project would be beyond our reach with our present membership.

2) A second possibility is that we take over a corner of one of the E.L.C. mission fields.

3) A third possibility is that we take over the support of some or all of the Canadian missionaries now serving on our mission fields.

4) A fourth possibility is that we establish a co-operative work with other Lutheran synods. Dr. F. A. Schiotz, director of orphan missions of the National Lutheran Council, reports that several Lutheran groups are pooling their resources in New Guinea, and that that island is one of the great foreign mission fields of the world today. We are familiar with the co-operative work carried on in Colombia by the E.L.C. and the U.E.L.C. Dr. R. A. Syrdal, executive secretary of the board of Foreign Missions of the E.L.C., suggests the possibility of such co-operative work in Japan, where at present the mission opportunities are tremendous.

Undoubtedly, there are other solutions to be suggested. Let there be much praying, much discussing, and much writing about this matter. Then when the day comes that we are an autonomous church, foreign missions will not be an after-thought, but a carefully planned and integral part of our work. God grant us to be faithful stewards of all that He has entrusted to us.

—G. O. Evenson.

A BIBLE WEEK IN EVERY PARISH

It was my privilege this year to be one of the speakers at the Torquay Bible Week. My experience there leaves me with the very definite conviction that every parish in our church should have such an annual Bible Week. Things would begin to happen in our congregations if a goodly share of the members gathered for a week of Bible study.

A friend to whom the above conviction was expressed raised the question, "Where would we get the speakers?" Perhaps the only answer that can be given is that the neighbor pastors would have to be called in. In many parishes there are laymen who are competent to lead a Bible study. Make use of them. It might be more difficult to secure an evangelist for the evening services. If one cannot be secured, then have an evening Bible study. Sometimes a simple Bible study reaches hearts more effectively than an evangelistic sermon.

In some parishes the turn-out might be rather disappointing. But Christ said that where two or three are gathered in His name, there He was in the midst. If one person receives a blessing from God as a result of a Bible week, the time, effort and expense involved are amply repaid.

Let's aim for a Bible week in every parish.

—G. O. Evenson.

S.L.B.I. IN NEED OF FUNDS

A rather ambitious building and repair program is being carried on at S.L.B.I. this summer. Those who are in charge are convinced that it is God's will that this work should go on. But it is rather distressing that the school treasury is empty, and that the unpaid bills add up to a rather large sum. We are praying God to provide for our needs. Does He want you to be a part of the answer to our needs?

—G. O. Evenson.

Sorrow seems sent for our instruction, as we darken the cages of birds when we would teach them to sing. —Jean Paul.

GRACE ALONE AND PRAYER

(Another in a series of articles by Dr. J. R. Lavik, Luther Seminary, Saskatoon, on "Grace Alone.")

Much time could profitably be given to a careful study of the principle of Grace Alone as it applies to the Christian's prayer life. However, because of the broad scope of our theme we shall have to limit ourselves quite severely.

How difficult it is for us, not only in theory or in doctrine but particularly in the art of daily living, to learn the lesson that it is by grace alone that we have our approach to God, or any real assurance that our prayers will be answered by Him! How easy it is for us, consciously or perhaps subconsciously, to comfort ourselves with the thought that God must surely be pleased with our prayers and answer them because of various more or less meritorious attitudes and practices in our prayer life! Let us consider very briefly some of the disturbing and distorting factors that may insinuate themselves.

It is so easy for us to assume that God must surely answer our prayers because we pray much, often, regularly, at definite times, and frequently quite long prayers. A Christian who walks close with God will of course pray much and often. Since "prayer" is the Christian's vital breath," there will be a vital regularity in his prayer life. There will be some quite definite times given to prayer. And occasions will arise when his sense of deep need will find expression in long prayers. But these various practices constitute no reason or basis for the assurance, building on this foundation, arise out of our own sinful nature, in various subtle ways, and is not quickened by the Spirit of prayer. It is not related to a true and living faith. As a corrective to such inclinations we do well to ponder the story, or parable, which Jesus told about the Pharisee and the Publican. Also the words of Jesus in Matt. 6:7: "When ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do; for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking." Words have great value in many ways, but they do not constitute the essence of prayer.

Is it also easy and natural for us to draw the conclusion that God will grant our petitions when we pray so that we are deeply stirred emotionally. In pointing this out we do not mean to imply that prayer to God should be without emotion. A sincere and earnest Christian, when he approaches the throne of grace about something that burdens his heart, will quite properly be deeply moved. If he very seriously is seeking something he conceives to be essential, his feelings will normally be stirred. But emotional reaction is not the basis of our approach to God, or any reason why God should hear our prayers. Emotional experiences may in fact be very carnal. That is, they may have their source in our own sinful nature, our vanities, our pride, or of the presence and workings of the Holy Spirit. It is a tragic perversion of true religion when people place such store by emotional experiences which they work up within themselves by the powers of the flesh, that they in dependence on them wilfully silence the voice of conscience and live lives that are an offence to God as well as to men. Such crude manifestations, how-

ever, lay bare their own falsity. For this reason the more subtle ones are correspondingly the more dangerous to the average Christian.

There is another rather common perversion of prayer which has its source in a misapprehension of the nature of faith, and which discounts the significance of grace. It is the view that God must surely hear our prayers because we firmly believe that He will give us what we are asking for. There are certain Scripture passages, it is true, which can seemingly quite reasonably be given such an interpretation. Concretely it is applied by some to sickness. God will heal you if you will claim His promises and really believe that He will. This sounds very devout, but it is based upon a misunderstanding of the real nature of Christian faith, and involves a subtle discounting of the principle of grace alone.

None of these views, and others that might be mentioned, constitute an acceptable basis for our approach to God in prayer. They illustrate how even sincere Christians may become involved in prayer practices that are out of harmony with the nature of truly scriptural prayer.

CHAUVIN PARISH NEWS

We are grateful for the Central Alberta Innermission Society for sending Pastor Lars Stalsbrotten of East Standwood, Wash., into the parish for two weeks. The gentle touch of the power of the Holy Spirit was felt during the services, as well as in the lives of individuals, especially in the congregation at Lea Park. Mr. Anderson and Dahl were with us part of the time. The men of the Battle River congregation recently painted the church. The W.M.F. furnished the painters with dinner, and paid the paint bill.

Most of the crops in the parish are the best in a decade, so is the pastor's garden, for a change, let me add.

Then in closing, if you have any surplus vegetables, don't feed it all to the pigs. Send some of it to the L.B.I., Camrose

—H. O.

THANK YOU!

Camrose, Alberta,
July 22, 1950.

Dear Readers of The Shepherd and Friends of the Bethany Home: It is hard to find expression in words for the many welcome gifts received from time to time in cash and also of gifts in natura. All the members of the home join me to say a heartfelt thank you and may our heavenly Father be permitted to bless each and everyone of you kind friends.

We are this year, too, looking forward with great anticipation to our home festival in August. We at the home realize more than anyone how much we have to be thankful for, first of all to our Heavenly Father, who through our good people has made it possible to provide a good home for our well deserved old people. Therefore it seems fitting to come together once a year for a special day of thanksgiving and praise. We are fortunate to have the promise of Rev. M. A. Dahlen, executive secretary of the Department of Charities as our guest speaker.

You will see by the program that follows in this issue that we are fortunate also to secure local talent from our congregations.

Come and see the home you have built and visit with the folks for whom the church has provided this home and see for yourselves if the money has not been well spent.

Here I would like to pass on a suggestion made by some visitors when we showed them the home, and they saw the empty sealers in the store room. They said: "Why don't you send these sealers to various people and I know they would be happy to fill them." So that is what we are doing, we are packing a few sealers

into each box so whoever would like to take some along, they will be handy to pick up on the "Home Day." We also suggest that you bring your lunch, and cups. The Home will serve you coffee and the plates will be provided for you.

We are looking forward to seeing you August 20th.

With kindest greetings and God's blessing. Yours in the service for the aged.

—Sister Marie Weiks.

HOME DAY FESTIVAL SERVICE

August 20, 1950 at 2 p.m.

Organist, Mrs. A. Magneson.

Hymn.

Devotion, Pastor Raymond Olson, Armena, secretary of the Board of Charities.

Hymn.

Musical Number from Camrose.

Greetings: Rev. Bergsagel, Chairman of Board of Bethany Home.

Solo: Mr. Oscar Fadum, Armena, in Norwegian.

Address: Pastor Grundahl, Home Pastor, in Norwegian.

Solo: Dr. Gullixson, Wetaskiwin.

Musical Number, Bardo.

Address: Rev. M. A. Dahlen, Executive Secretary of the Department of Charities, E.L.C.

Solo: Mrs. Alackson, New Norway.

Remarks: Sister Marie Weiks, Superintendent of Bethany Sunset Home.

Musical Number, Bawlf.

Hymn.

Thanksgiving to Liquidate the Debts of the home.

Hymn.

Closing Prayer and Benediction, Rev. T. W. Maakestad, Edmonton.

Doxology.

Everyone bring lunch and cups. Coffee and plates provided.

THE CHURCH HISTORY

It took somewhat longer time than it should have before I sent for the Book. I finished reading it for the first time some weeks ago. It is astonishing that Brother Ljostveit could find time to write such a book seeing he is serving a church, is editor of Morning Glory and also is doing some evangelistic work. But he has done a very thorough work touching upon all the religious movements of importance from the earliest time till the present day. The conflict between light and darkness, between the seed of the woman and seed of the serpent is very clearly pictured to us.

The Christians have always more or less been persecuted by the powers of darkness. To begin with it was often only mere opposition which in time developed into the most horrible treatment of God's people, and this order of things will continue to the end of the present age. When one is perusing this book it is only natural that words like these from a great hymn-writer come to mind:

Despised and scorned they sojourned here,

But now, how glorious they appear! Those martyrs stand a priestly band God's throne forever near.

Most of us in our day are not so familiar with church history, and we shall be profited by reading and studying this book, particularly would that be the case with our younger generation. Its cost is \$2.50, and it can be had by addressing T. Tiller, 2741 Park Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. It is published by the Hauge Federation.

—L. O. Tysseland, Swift Current, Sask. (In Morning Glory, January 5, 1950).

Thomas Guthrie used to say: "If you find yourself loving any pleasure better than your prayers, any book better than the Bible, any house better than the House of God, any table better than the Lord's Table, any person better than Christ, or any indulgence better than the hope of heaven — take alarm!"

GRANDPA'S GARDEN

We print this, because there are many touches of beauty in it, but especially because it is written by a granddaughter of Dr. H. N. Ronning. We can see him in his rock-garden in Valhalla Centre when reading these lines.

He walked amidst his flowers
And his rare and mossy rocks
And in his green tree-dotted valley
That sheltered woolly flocks.

His spirit, like the rocks, stood firm,
His thoughts, like flowers, bloomed
With truth and grace and courage
And with kindness were perfumed.

He tended like a shepherd,
These things in his abode
As the bright brook bubbled gayly
Curling o'er its rock road.

The lily-of-the-valley
Sipped sweet life out of the brook,
A violet tilted its mauve head
To thank him for its nook.

Multi-colored gladioli, and
Purple iris he kept.
He loved the sticky little leaves
That in the bud still slept.

A host of crimson lilies
Flamed against the skies
And filled the air around him
With sweetened, grateful sighs.

He watched the reddish sun drop,
gently,
Splashing colors across the sky,
And darkness softly settled
As he whispered his goodbye.

While "planning and preparing"
To meet our God some day,
He'd poured out truth and strength
and
Taught the weary how to pray.

That night the moon shone brighter,
Stars twinkled out the time,
And God let down His Golden Stairs
And beckoned him to climb.

Mists kissed his flowers good morning
Their petals dripped with tears,
His woolly fold blinked glistening eyes
When he did not appear.

They'll not forget his gentle touch,
Though he has ceased to roam
And now walks down God's garden
path;
His everlasting Home.

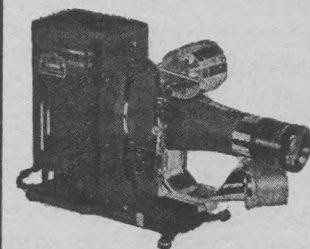
—Audrey Ronning Topping.

WANTED

Experienced engineer and electrician desires to buy electric power plant in small town, or will build if prospects warrant. Have machinery. Lutheran community preferred. Abraham Vold, Witten, South Dakota.

W.M.F. COOK BOOK

Are you looking for a birthday or "shower" gift? Why not give a W.M.F. Cook Book? There are still some to be had, and we urge you all to order your supply NOW. Price is one dollar. Send your order to Miss Clara Haugen, 212 Wiggins Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask.



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MISSIONARY OSTREM IN AMERICA

Missionary Pastor Gerhard Ostrem returned to his family in Bogota after an absence of five months. He has had unforgettable experiences. He hopes to be in Chicago by August 4th. After that it is understood he will take a time of rest. After visiting relatives and friends it is hoped that he will be available for visits to the congregation. This will likely not be possible until the fall.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LUTHER LEAGUE

MILTON RUDE, Editor, Luther Seminary, 212 Wiggins Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.

Deadline for material to Y.P.L.L. Editor the 15th of each preceding month

"NO TRUMPET BEFORE HIM"

The book, "No Trumpet Before Him," written by Nelia Gardner White, portrays typically many situations in the church of this modern age. The hand of worldliness is gradually warming its fingers into every denomination like gangrene. The truth and purity of real Christianity is being soiled and dimmed by men who create their own version of the church that will give to them, what they think, the greatest comfort. In contrast to its holy original purpose, the church is beginning to be looked upon as a community centre.

In this book, Paul Philipps is an example of the few men left today who are in the right relationship with the author of life. It was more important to him to do the will of God than to please men or acquire material riches or worldly fame. Such people are looked upon, by the majority, as misfits. But God has warned us through the Bible not to lay up treasures on earth where moth and rust doth corrupt, but lay up treasures in heaven. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world but lose his own soul?" "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

The First Church in Warrenton was a flourishing one (financially at least) due to such members as Edward Byington, owner of the largest department store, university professors and eminent surgeons. These people had built up the church beautifully and the late Reverend Ficke conducted beautiful sermons in return that lulled all these good rich people to sleep in their sins. However, Rev. Ficke, inconsiderately and at a most inopportune time, died. In his place came a young, inexperienced pastor with no social background to speak of. Outside of these criticisms there really wasn't anything wrong with the man unless it was that he seemed to be a Christian.

Paul Philipps' first Sunday in Warrenton resulted in a full church. The swelling organ music and robed choir made a beautiful background. Not feeling entirely at home in the robe Rev. Ficke had worn, Rev. Philipps began his first sermon:

"All my sermons I shall ever preach to you will stem from my text today, for it is the undying rootstock of Christianity. I Cor. 11:28, 'Let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup.'"

Boldly and relentlessly Paul Philipps continued from that day on to use the Word of God as the sword that is quick and powerful to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart (that is naturally inclined towards evil).

The world is asleep to its corruptness and lost condition because there are so few men who are willing to sacrifice position in the eyes of men for living a life that will count for eternity. The one who gave us life is the Lord of the universe. He made us in his own image which contains not only a body but a soul that will live forever. The world is losing sight of the fact that there are two roads to follow on earth and two abodes in eternity. The path we choose while we live on earth determines where we spend eternity. Everything today is in a constant turmoil of change, but the fundamentals of life will never change for "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."

"There is only one life to live. It will soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last."

—Ella Loken,
A Luther Leaguer of Bawlf.

MISSIONARY SPEAKS

Bethania Luther League held its International Luther League Day on Sunday, May 7th. We had with us a guest speaker, Missionary Inga Kjos, from Cadogan, Alberta.

Our Luther League also held a pie social on June 2nd, at which we had membership drives for both the Luther League and L.D.R. A good crowd attended and all enjoyed the first out-door social of this year.

Anna Moan,
Edmonton Circuit L.L. Echo.

"THE JOY WAS OURS"

On Wednesday evening, June 28th, the Vig churchyard at Bentley was a scene of great activity. About fifty-two young folks piled into a big trailer pulled by Mr. Melvin Vig's tractor. After a very exciting three-mile ride we joined the older folks at a chosen site where various games were played and a wiener roast was enjoyed by all. About eighty people were present.

Afterwards Miss Annie Vig and the student pastor, Curtis Satre, led a very good hymn sing with their guitars. An invitation was given to the young people to develop their spiritual lives by attending Bible Camp. A record number registered for camp and all agreed that the evening was well worth repeating sometime.

—Curtis Satre.

CAN'T YOU JUST SEE THEM?

Edmonton Luther League had a hilarious time at a social held Friday evening, June 9th, at the beautiful Victorian Park along the river bank. A game of fast ball was played, and how! I think the Dodgers won — who were they? After the three cheers of victory, followed games such as three deep, flying Dutchman, etc. You should have seen some of those flying Dutchmen — I wonder where they landed.

To top the evening off, a wiener roast alongside the river bank was enjoyed by everyone. And was that coffee ever good!

Gertrude Christenson was called upon for devotion which was followed by a sing-song. The devotional part was closed by singing, "Blest be the Tie That Binds."

Let it be said that "everyone enjoyed themselves immensely."

—Edmonton Circuit Leaguers' Echo.

DOROTHY VINGE IN WORK PROJECT

(A release received from the Division of Student Service, Chicago for immediate publicity. It gives a more complete picture of the total study-work project.)

The Division of Student Service announces that Miss Dorothy Vinge, a student at the Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute in Camrose, Alberta, is one of the 18 Lutheran students from the United States and Canada participating in three international study-work projects in Germany and Austria this summer under the sponsorship of the Lutheran World Federation, with the Division of Student Service of the National Lutheran Council serving as the American representative.

Miss Vinge is a graduate of Camrose Lutheran College and the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Albert M. Vinge of Camrose, Alberta. She has held various offices in the Maple Leaf Region of the Lutheran Student Association of America and has been active in the Luther League program of the Lutheran Church.

Lutheran students participating in the camp projects in Europe will join with German, French, Dutch, Austrian, and Scandinavian students, refugee students and students in exile

from the Baltic states in the study-work projects. They will pay their own expenses, estimated at approximately \$700, and will serve without pay, but will receive their maintenance while actually working on the projects.

The projects consist of the construction of a barracks for boys in West Berlin, the construction of a youth building for a local parish in Scheinfeld, and the renovation of a home for D.P. old folks and assistance in a youth work project in Austria.

Students participating in the study work project in Berlin will assist in the building of a barracks for 20 boys from the East Zone who will be finishing high school in West Berlin. The building will be erected on the grounds of a Lutheran congregation.

Plans have already been drawn up for the project in Scheinfeld, which is a Gemeindehaus or youth building for the local parish providing an assembly hall, a youth room and a living apartment. This is the first building in a complex which later will include a church building.

The projects will last a month. Each camp will be made up of approximately 20 students from the various countries with adult leaders. Expenses for room and board for students and leaders during the projects will be carried by the Lutheran World Federation.

In the program a major portion of time will be set each day for worship, Bible study, and a study discussion on the Christian faith and various aspects of the work of the church. Approximately six hours of physical labor will be given each day.

MOOSE JAW CIRCUIT CONVENTION

The Moose Jaw Circuit convention was held in Saron congregation, Lake Alma, Sask., A. Solheim, pastor, June 1st and 2nd.

Pastor J. Precht, the Circuit president, opened the convention with words of welcome to the many who were present the first day. The convention opened with Communion service in the morning.

The theme of the convention was based on Luke 15:11-32, the Parable of the Two Sons. Various pastors and laymen brought messages from this portion of God's Word and brought a challenge to those present.

Important business in regard to Circuit activities and projects were taken care of. It was decided that the Bible Camp facilities be improved, and that an appeal be made to the congregations for financial assistance.

At the closing session a period was given for testimonies. Many, both young and old, testified how Christ had changed their lives emphasizing that He is also a keeping Saviour.

In closing the convention Pastor Precht thanked the local parish for their hospitality and good meals; the local pastor and his wife; one and all for their presence and interest.

We had a blessed convention. The topics were very interesting and challenging. The discussion periods were alive and interesting. The meetings were well attended. The development of the theme revealed the dangers of the prodigal turning his back upon God, the subtle temptations of the elder son who remained in his father's house without surrendering his heart to his Father. As the prodigal came to himself and returned to the father, "this is the hour of decision" was strongly put forth. We saw God's abundant Grace in receiving the penitent sinner whether he be a prodigal or a Christian.

—H. G. Frostad, Circuit secretary.

DO WE WANT A REVIVAL?

Do we want a revival? If we do we must pray. We are taught to pray, "Thy Kingdom come." Surely this means that we are to pray for a revival that the prodigal sons and daughters may return to their heavenly Father. Thy Kingdom come! This is our Lord's Will and purpose. Therefore let us pray, agree together to pray in Jesus name. Unite the congregation to pray! Be united in prayer together; Be united to pray in groups; but more important it is that united prayer ascend from the family altar; and most important that this united prayer comes from each individual in the prayer closet, from silent prayers while at work, and from the prayers during the night watches.

Do we want a revival? If we do we must do something more than pray. We must permit God to answer our prayers both for us and through us, otherwise we are as those "who ask and receive not because we ask amiss." The relationship to God and our fellowmen must be right. Jesus said, "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." Doesn't this apply when we pray? It was made clear to David that even the offerings commanded by God were not acceptable before there was "a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart." However, when these were found the offerings made would be acceptable and well pleasing to the Lord. Prayer for revival will be without avail until there is a reconciliation with the brother "that has ought against thee." If St. Paul's words, "For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you" apply among us then surely there must be repentance, there must be a willingness to confess and to right the wrong and remove the cause of offence.

Do we want a revival? If we do we must do something more than pray. We must serve! We are not of the world, but we are in this world, and God has commanded that we are to be the light of the world. To separate ourselves either as individuals or select groups only to pray may seem pleasant enough, but it is only to seek the same way of escape as used by monks and nuns secluded behind monastery walls. This may be pleasant enough yet the Lord's program demands more; it demands both prayer and work. It demands a response to the command, "Go Ye!" This may be compared to praying for our daily bread. We know it is God's will that we do so; but we also know that the Scriptures tell us that, "he that will not work neither let him eat." Thus it is when we pray for the Lord's work we must pray but also be willing to work and always remembering that without Jesus we can do nothing. It is enlightening to read of the early Christians who prayed that they might speak the Word of God with boldness. They had not forgotten that they were called to be witnesses and therefore they prayed so earnestly for this.

Our prayers for revival will not mean anything unless it also on our part means a willingness to use the means that God has given us. Remember that the Word and the Sacraments are the God given means of grace and to pray for revival while despising or neglecting these is nothing less than blasphemy.

Pray for revival and be ready to count the cost. Pray for revival and use the means God has given us.

—Jacob B. Stolee.

Christ does not want to be our helper; He wants to be our life; He does not want us to work for Him; He wants us let Him do His work through us, using us as we use a pencil to write with—better still as using us as one of the fingers of His hand.